

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS;

1. A dice game apparatus comprising:

a dice rolling means for rolling dice so as to change spots shown by the dice and then stopping the dice again;

a photographing means for photographing the dice from a predetermined direction, the dice having been rolled by the dice rolling means and then having been stopped with given spots; and

a judging means for judging spots shown by the dice based on image data obtained by the photographing means;

wherein a predetermined profit is given to a player who has placed a bet on the given spots shown by the dice, based on a judgment result produced by the judging means;

wherein the rolling means has a rolling surface on which the dice are put and rolled, the rolling surface being inclined downwardly from an outer periphery thereof toward a center thereof; and

wherein the photographing means takes an image including upper sides of the dice gathering at a lower position of the rolling surface from above the rolling surface.

2. The dice game apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the rolling surface and the photographing means can be shielded by a

shielding member when the dice are rolled, and the dice are photographed while being shielded by the shielding member.

3. The dice game apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the dice are stopped in a state of being inclined in accordance with an inclination of the rolling surface, and the dice are stationary while the upper sides of the dice are substantially exactly facing the photographing means.

4. The dice game apparatus of Claim 3, wherein the photographing means is disposed above a lowest position of the rolling surface.

5. The dice game apparatus of Claim 4, wherein, when a plurality of dice are used, the dice to be stopped on the rolling surface are each rolled to a stop at a substantially equal distance from a reference point.

6. The dice game apparatus of Claim 5, wherein the rolling surface and the photographing means can be shielded by a shielding member when the dice are rolled, and the dice are photographed while being shielded by the shielding member.

7. The dice game apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the photographing means is a CCD (Charge-Coupled Device) camera, the CCD camera has a wide-angle lens.